

Budget Recommendations

Fiscal Year 2006 Fiscal Year 2005 Supplementals

Governor Olene S. Walker State of Utah





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GAYLE F. MCKEACHNIE

December 10, 2004

My Fellow Utahns:

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve you as governor. I will shortly end a long and satisfying period of public service with deep and fond affection for both the dedicated people and spectacular landscape of this state. I have witnessed many challenges and learned many lessons during that time. I view the future of our state in the same way I have witnessed its past - we will have our challenges but we are also the bearers of marvelous hope and promise.

The budget recommendations I present here reflect the many sound principles we as a state have learned from past experience. We must live within our means matching our income with our expenses. It is important and fiscally beneficial to maintain our strong credit rating. To protect us against emergencies, it is wise to have a savings account with sufficient funds to carry us through difficult times. We should quickly pay off our debts. We can better manage over the long term when we do not specifically set aside revenues for fixed purposes. You will find within the pages of this document a budget that reflects these and other basic principles.

We also need to keep our eye fixed on tomorrow as we go about our business today. Education has been the focus for the past several years and will continue to be for many years to come. However, we shouldn't lose sight of other key issues that loom just over the horizon - our continual transportation needs, an aging population, and the need for water to keep our economy growing.

Utah is considered the best managed state in the nation. This is the result of many people in this state who have applied the necessary principles to keep us on a sound footing. The recommendations I am making will keep us in that steady position.

My fondest regards and thanks to all of you.

Sincerely,

Olene S. Walker

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Governor

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Career Service Review Board Economic Development and Human Resources

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